

⑫ **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

⑳ Application number: **84113715.1**

⑤① Int. Cl.⁴: **A 61 K 31/73**

㉔ Date of filing: **14.11.84**

③① Priority: **25.11.83 US 555310**

④③ Date of publication of application:
05.06.85 Bulletin 85/23

⑧⑧ Date of deferred publication of search report: **08.10.86**

⑧④ Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI NL SE

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⑤④ **The use of ultrapure hyaluronic acid to improve animal joint function.**

⑤⑦ Hyaluronic acid having controlled molecular weight and substantially free of protein and nucleic acids can be prepared from a hyaluronidase-negative or hyaluronidase inhibited microbiological source and product is especially useful as a joint replacement fluid in mammals.



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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent
proceedings, as the European search report

0143393

Application number

EP 84 11 3715

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
X	CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol.93, 1980, page 101, ref.no. 37367w; Columbus, Ohio, US D.A. GINGERICH et al.: "Force plate studies on the effect of exogenous hyaluronic acid on joint function in equine arthritis." & J. Vet. Pharmacol. Ther. 1979, 2(4), 291-8. * Abstract *	1	A 61 K 31/73
Y	US-A- 2 975 104 (G.H. WARREN) * Claims *	1-5	
D,Y	US-A- 4 141 973 (E.A. BALAZS) * Column 14, lines 8-36 *	1-5	
A	US-A- 3 396 081 (G. BILLEK)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
			C 08 B C 12 P A 61 K C 08 L
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the provisions of the European Patent Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of some of the claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely:</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely: 1-8</p> <p>Claims not searched</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy (see art. 52(4) of the European Patent Convention).</p>			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 02-07-1986	Examiner LENSEN
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			